Ending With Evidence

Trace how a conclusion synthesizes evidence and qualifies a claim.

11.W.1.A.iv "Write extended pieces that: Provide a concluding section that follows from the information or explanation presented."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the concluding section. Circle details from the first two paragraphs that the conclusion brings together or responds to, then draw lines to the related conclusion sentence.

Rebuilding Oyster Reefs

1 Along many U.S. coastlines, oyster reefs once formed broad, rough barriers in shallow water. Oysters attach to hard surfaces and grow in clusters, creating spaces where small fish and crabs can shelter. As oysters feed, they filter particles from the water, although filtering alone cannot solve pollution from sewage, farms, or industry. Harvesting, disease, and the loss of suitable habitat have reduced many natural reefs. Because the reefs affect both water conditions and coastal habitat, scientists and local groups have begun rebuilding some of them.

2 Restoration teams often place recycled oyster shells or other approved hard material on the sea floor, giving young oysters a place to settle. In some projects, hatcheries raise oyster larvae before releasing them onto that material. Teams then measure such changes as oyster survival, reef size, water cloudiness, and the number of fish nearby. These measurements matter because a reef that looks larger may not yet be functioning well. Results also depend on local salinity, storms, and continuing sources of pollution, so restoration plans must be tested and adjusted over time.

3 Rebuilding oyster reefs is not a quick substitute for preventing pollution or protecting coasts in other ways. Still, the earlier evidence shows why carefully designed projects can be useful: reefs can support habitat and improve water conditions, while monitoring can reveal whether a project is working under local conditions. A sound conclusion, then, is that restoration should pair suitable hard material with long-term measurement and broader pollution control. This approach follows from the reefs' multiple benefits as well as the limits that scientists observe during restoration in changing coastal environments.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which sentence begins the concluding section, and what limitation does it establish?

2. How does the second sentence of the conclusion bring together ideas from the earlier paragraphs?

3. Why does the conclusion recommend long-term measurement instead of treating reef size alone as proof of success?

4. Does the conclusion introduce a new central topic? Explain how its recommended actions follow from the passage.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A report explains that reflective roofs can lower building temperatures, but their results depend on local climate and regular maintenance. Write a two-sentence concluding section that synthesizes both ideas and gives a reasonable next step. Do not add a new benefit.

Ending With Evidence

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the concluding section. Circle details from the first two paragraphs that the conclusion brings together or responds to, then draw lines to the related conclusion sentence. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which sentence begins the concluding section, and what limitation does it establish?	**The first sentence of paragraph 3 begins the conclusion. It establishes that reef rebuilding cannot replace pollution prevention or other coastal protections.**
2	How does the second sentence of the conclusion bring together ideas from the earlier paragraphs?	**It connects the reefs' habitat and water-condition benefits from paragraph 1 with the need for monitoring from paragraph 2.**
3	Why does the conclusion recommend long-term measurement instead of treating reef size alone as proof of success?	**Paragraph 2 explains that a larger reef may not be functioning well and that results depend on local conditions, storms, and pollution.**
4	Does the conclusion introduce a new central topic? Explain how its recommended actions follow from the passage.	**No. Suitable hard material comes from the restoration methods, long-term measurement follows from the monitoring evidence, and pollution control responds to the limits of oyster filtering.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Reflective roofs can be a useful tool for reducing heat inside buildings, but their results depend on local climate and regular maintenance. Therefore, building managers should evaluate local conditions and plan regular upkeep before relying on reflective roofs as part of a heat-reduction strategy.

Accept conclusions that synthesize the stated benefit and limitation, then provide a logical next step. The response should not introduce an unsupported new benefit or unrelated topic.